Transitioning from PHP to Django *On the Sly*

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You can make the switch to Django.

Starting from scratch is a terrible idea.

3
9-8-39

Keep PHP running and transition one step at a time.

No 11

This talk is for me.
(of 3 years ago)

Win over your team, your boss and your client.

Why Python?

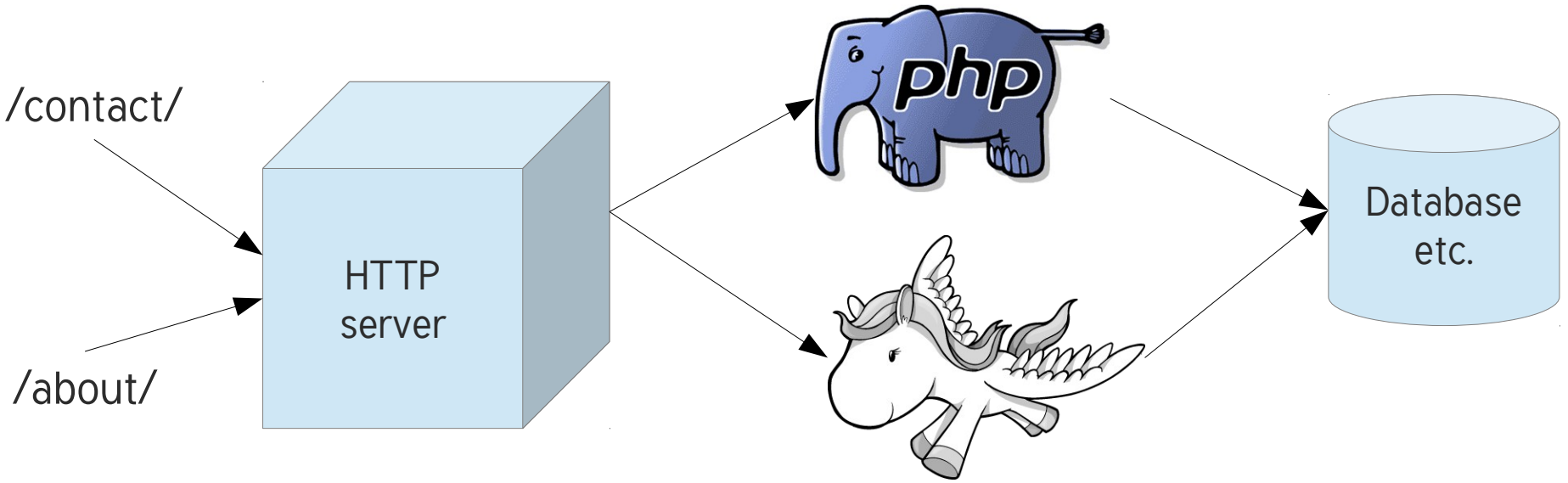
Why Django?

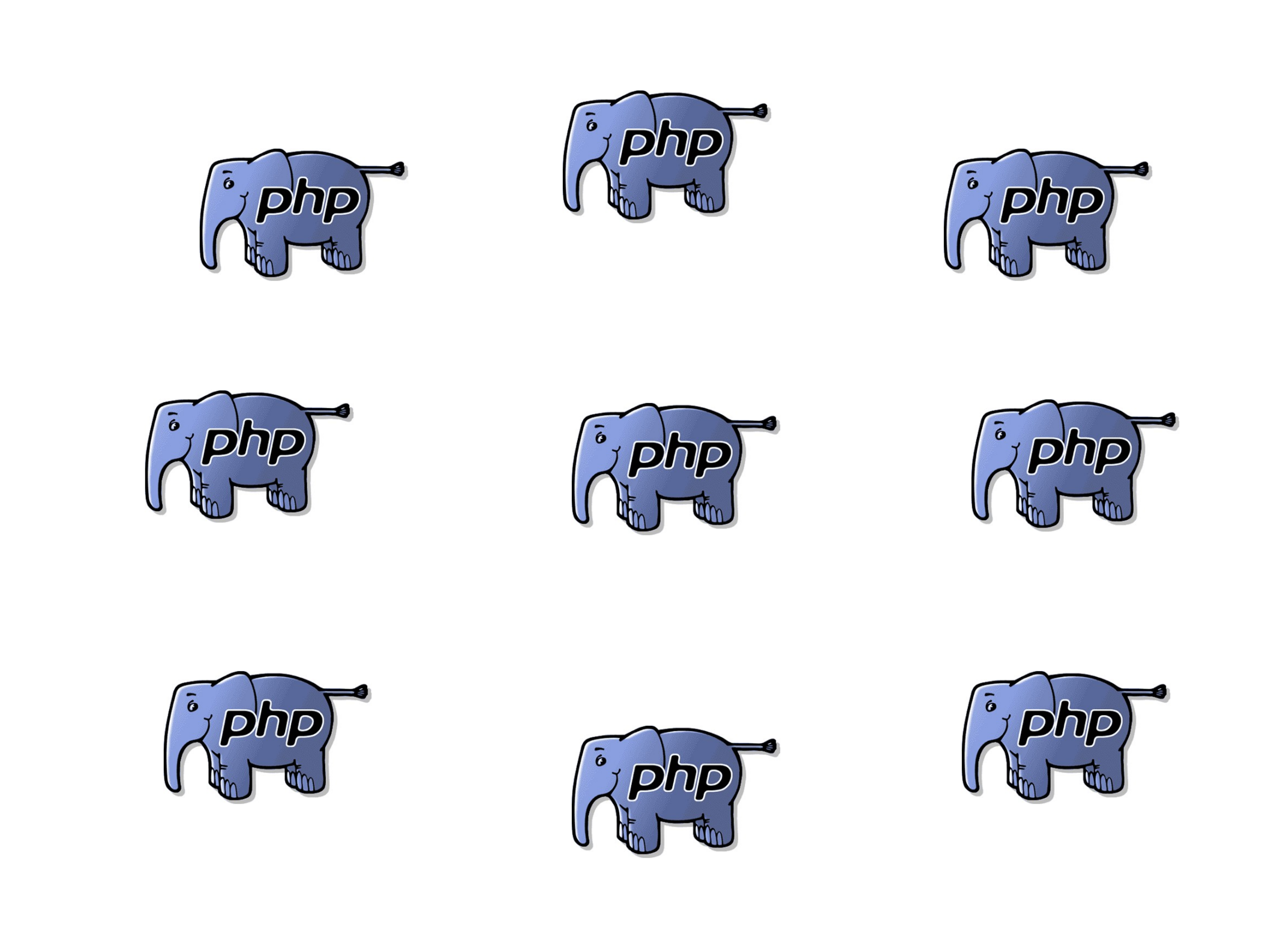
Everyone wins!

Sudden change hurts your client.

Use behind the scenes magic.

Secret ponies in your web server

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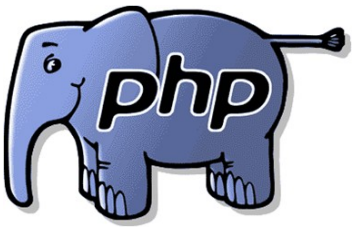
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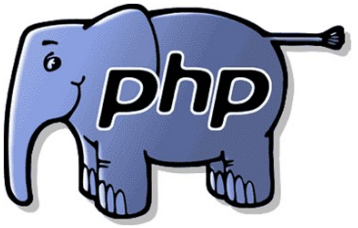
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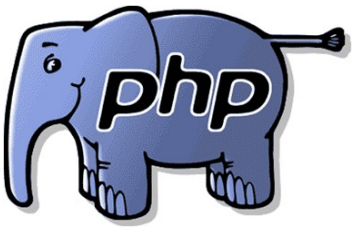
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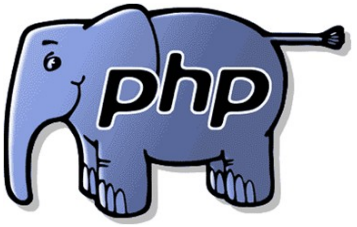
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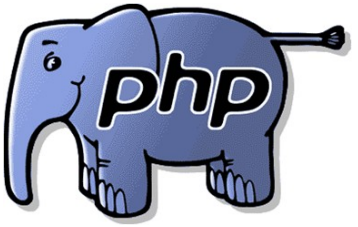
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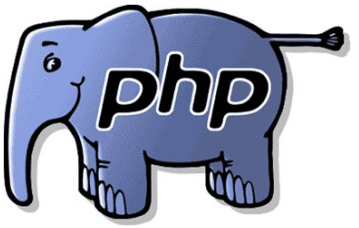
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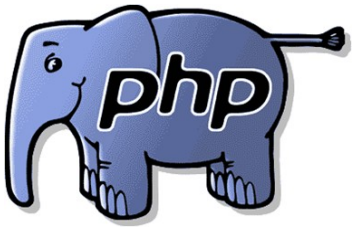
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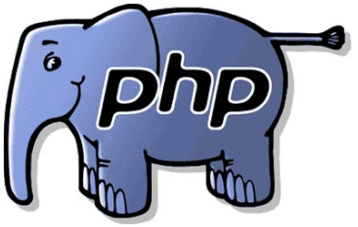
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Convert view functionality exactly.

Minimise time between working PHP and working Django.

1. Neutralise the Rails fans in your team.

2. Negotiate a maintenance budget with client.

3. Start with a simple PHP script.

4. Pony up.

5. Deploy your Pony.

```
if /contact/:
    django

else:
    php
```

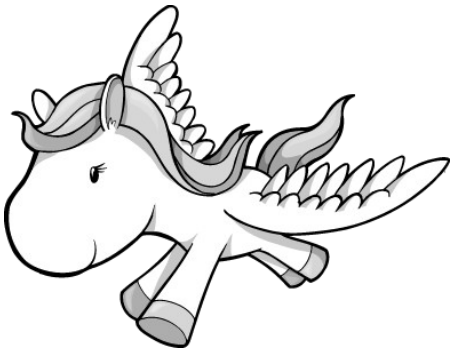
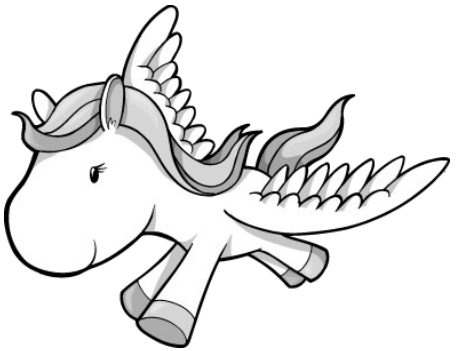
6. Delete some PHP :)

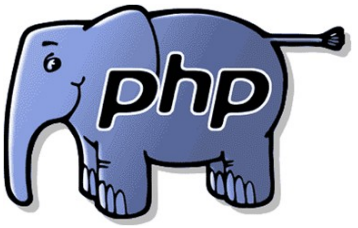
7. Rest and repeat.

8. PHP becomes the exception.

```
if /about/:
    php

else:
    django
```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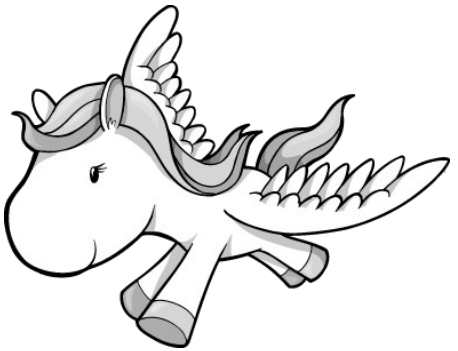
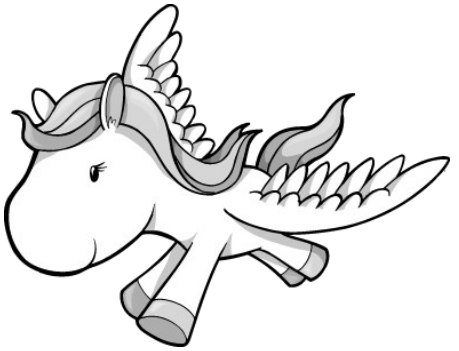

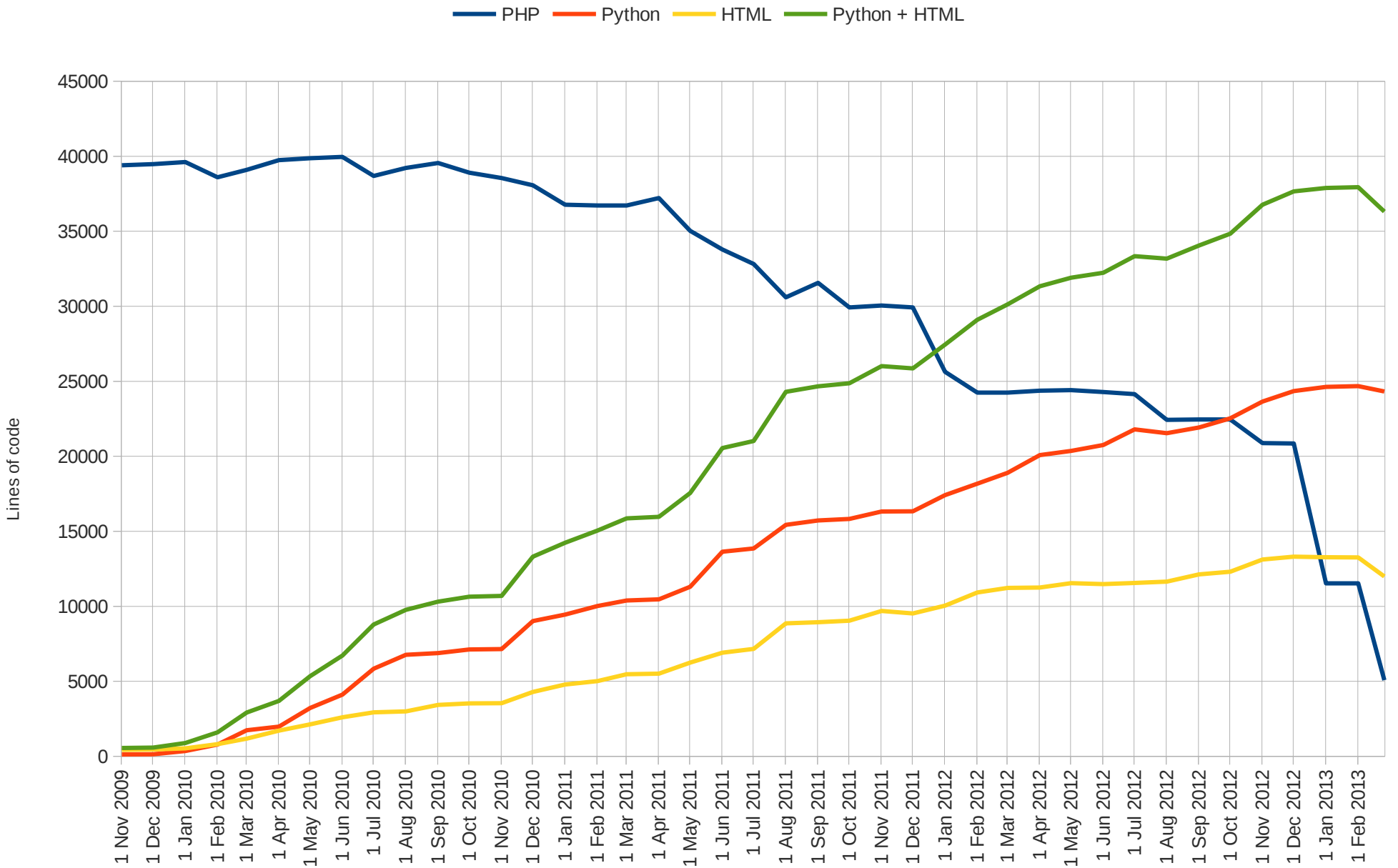
PHP
Python
HTML
Python + HTML
Lines of code
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40000
35000
30000
25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0
1 Nov 2009
1 Dec 2009
1 Jan 2010
1 Feb 2010
1 Mar 2010
1 Apr 2010
1 May 2010
1 Jun 2010
1 Jul 2010
1 Aug 2010
1 Sep 2010
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9. You win!

Tip:

Start small and low priority.

Tip:

Take authentication away from PHP a soon as possible.

Tip:

Phone ahead.

Tip:

Mix in new shiny things.

Win:

Small sprints feel good.

Win:

It's life as usual for the client.

Win:

New features come easy now.

Win:

Steady cashflow.

Win:

Off-peak scheduling.

Pain point:

It's a marathon.

Pain point:

Conversion alone shows little visible progress.

Pain point:

Hyperlinking PHP ↔ Python.

Pain point:

Occasional dependency hell.

Bad alternative:

“Second system syndrome”

Bad alternative:

“Would you mind just adding…”

How's that working out?

Sturm

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sturm.com.au
sturm.com.au/2013/talks/django-sly-pyconau

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